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## Merriam-Webster's COLLEGIATE® DICTIONARY



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- ▶ Word of the Day
- ▶ Word Games
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- ▶ Books and CDs
- ▶ Company Info
- ▶ Customer Service
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6 entries found for **elastic**.

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elastic[1, adjective]  
elastic[2, noun]  
elastic fiber  
elastic limit  
elastic modulus  
elastic scattering

Go

Main Entry: **<sup>1</sup>elas-tic** 🗨

Pronunciation: i-'las-tik

Function: *adjective*

Etymology: New Latin *elasticus*, from Late Greek *elastos* ductile, beaten, from Greek *elaunein* to drive, beat out; probably akin to Greek *Elythe* he went, Old Irish *luid*

Date: 1674

**1 a** *of a solid* : capable of recovering size and shape after deformation **b** : being a collision between particles in which the total kinetic energy of the particles remains unchanged

**2** : capable of recovering quickly especially from depression or disappointment

**3** : capable of being easily stretched or expanded and resuming former shape : **FLEXIBLE**

**4 a** : capable of ready change or easy expansion or contraction : not rigid or constricted **b** : receptive to new ideas : **ADAPTABLE** - **elas-ti-cal-ly** 🗨 /-ti-k(ə-)lē/ *adverb*

**synonyms** **ELASTIC**, **RESILIENT**, **SPRINGY**, **FLEXIBLE**, **SUPPLE** mean able to endure strain without being permanently injured. **ELASTIC** implies the property of resisting deformation by stretching <an *elastic* waistband>. **RESILIENT** implies the ability to recover shape quickly when the deforming force or pressure is removed <a *resilient* innersole>. **SPRINGY** stresses both the ease with which something yields to pressure and the quickness of its return to original shape <the cake is done when the top is *springy*>. **FLEXIBLE** applies to something which may or may not be resilient or elastic but which can be bent or folded without breaking <*flexible* plastic tubing>. **SUPPLE** applies to something that can be

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readily bent, twisted, or folded without any sign of injury <supple leather>.

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**Pronunciation Symbols**

\&\ as a and u in abut	\e\ as e in bet	\o\ as aw in law
\&\ as e in kitten	\E\ as ea in easy	\oi\ as oy in boy
\&r\ as ur/er in further	\g\ as g in go	\th\ as th in thin
\a\ as a in ash	\i\ as i in hit	\[th]\ as th in the
\A\ as a in ace	\I\ as i in ice	\U\ as oo in loot
\ä\ as o in mop	\j\ as j in job	\u\ as oo in foot
\au\ as ou in out	\[ng]\ as ng in sing	\y\ as y in yet
\ch\ as ch in chin	\O\ as o in go	\zh\ as si in vision

For more information see the [Guide To Pronunciation](#).

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One entry found for **resilient**.

Main Entry: **re·sil·ient**

Pronunciation: -y&nt

Function: *adjective*

Etymology: Latin *resilient-*, *resiliens*, present participle of *resilire* to jump back, recoil, from *re-* + *salire* to leap -- more at SALLY

Date: 1674

: characterized or marked by resilience : as **a** : capable of withstanding shock without permanent deformation or rupture **b** : tending to recover from or adjust easily to misfortune or change

**synonym** see ELASTIC

- **re·sil·ient·ly** *adverb*

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#### Pronunciation Symbols

\&\ as a and u in abut

\&\ as e in kitten

\&r\ as ur/er in further

\a\ as a in ash

\A\ as a in ace

\ä\ as o in mop

\au\ as ou in out

\ch\ as ch in chin

\e\ as e in bet

\E\ as ea in easy

\g\ as g in go

\i\ as i in hit

\I\ as i in ice

\j\ as j in job

\[ng]\ as ng in sing

\O\ as o in go

\o\ as aw in law

\oi\ as oy in boy

\th\ as th in thin

\[th]\ as th in the

\O\ as oo in loot

\u\ as oo in foot

\y\ as y in yet

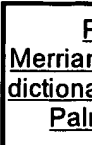
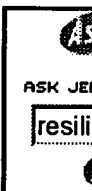
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For more information see the Guide To Pronunciation.

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